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VOL. 11 NO. 242

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

ROOM RENTS & EXTRAS

Sir.—The publicity given by the Telegraph in its issue of July 11, on excessive incidental charges at hotels, is long overdue, but none the less very welcome. The article, however, deals with only one aspect of the excessive charges.

The other and equally important aspect is the basic charge in boarding houses of \$8 per person per day, for one room only. For a suite (consisting of bedroom, lounge and bathroom) in one establishment, for which it is understood, the charge prewar was of the order of \$9 per day, the proprietors are now obtaining \$12 per day, assuming that both bedroom and former lounge are occupied by married couples.

This amounts to a grand total sum over a period of a year, and remains a considerable profit in spite of rents being at 30% above prewar rates.

NO COMPARISON

For the prices charged, one could live in an excellent suite of rooms at any of London's leading hotels, which bear no comparison with some of the boarding houses in Hongkong today. Where one is obliged to provide one's own furniture, furnishings and bed linen to obtain a reasonable degree of comfort, then the charges are merely an imposition on a long-suffering public.

From the point of view of looking after themselves, proprietors would be expected to levy high charges, but it is quite another matter when Government actually fixes rates and condemns them, having no regard as to whether the hotels or boarding houses could be classed as first, second, or third rate.

If Government fixes a rate of \$8 per person per day for a first-class hotel, suitably furnished, and for rooms with private bathrooms, then surely there should be a scaling down of charges for establishments which could not be rated as first-class, by reason of the fact that, in some instances they are badly and poorly furnished, poorly decorated, and do not provide any common rooms?

At no time, to our knowledge, has Government intimated to the general public as to what they would expect in respect of the present charges. Perhaps Govt. would issue a statement, and give consideration to a review of charges, assessing them on the facilities provided.

LIVING HAND TO MOUTH
It is assumed that, although these charges have been instituted, it is not the intention to continue them "until the end of time," and thus allow the few to become wealthy at the expense of the many. By situations like that, Hongkong will never return to an ordered economy. Surely there is no time like the present to help reduce the cost of living, and what better body than Government to set a good example.

Many people suffer these unjust charges, and go on living a hand to mouth existence, because of the fear of losing their accommodation, unsatisfactory though it is, and having nowhere else to go, a fact which the hoteliers are obviously exploiting to the full.

Reverting to the incidental charges, we should like to confirm the opinion expressed in the article as we are in a position to substantiate it. In Kowloon the rates for electrical equipment were instituted at a time when there were general complaints about the high cost of electricity. With the announcement of a substantial reduction in the cost of electricity, from July 1, we would expect lower rates for electrical equipment—such as has not so far been the case. Therefore whatever profit was being made to June 30, now becomes a handsome bonus.

Assuming a charge of \$16 per month for the use of water by a Resident's wash amah, this gives an estimated consumption of 16,000 gallons of water per month. Fantastic, isn't it?

GET RICH QUICK

In a climate such as Hongkong, one expects as fan as an integral part of the amenities of any establishment, for which a nominal sum only should be charged. As an additional imposition, residents have to provide their own butter and sauces. The food is often indifferently cooked and of poor quality and quantity, thus necessitating further expenditure in obtaining additional items.

In conclusion, it is very obvious that proprietors of hotels and boarding houses, especially those that cannot be recorded as first class, are intent on extracting every cent they possibly can from residents, whilst at the same time giving them very little value for their money. It is a "get rich quick" policy and it is doubtful if they could ever better it.

Until Government comes to our rescue, which we hope will be soon, we must remain.

TWO WELL DRAINED RESIDENTS

The Hongkong Telegraph

TUESDAY, JULY 15, 1947.

Nations Appoint General Staff To Plan Europe's Recovery

TEMPORARY TEA RATION CUT

Effect Of Strikes.

London, July 14. A temporary cut in Britain's tea ration was announced in the House of Commons today by the Food Minister, Mr John Strachey, as a result of strikes in Calcutta and Colombo.

Mr Strachey said that the tea ration—normally eight ounces per person one month and 12 ounces the next—would be eight ounces per month until the middle of November.

It would not be necessary to make this temporary reduction for people of 70 and over and seamen.

Mr Strachey said: "The House will recollect that on April 3, I warned members that, mainly owing to a dock strike in Calcutta, our stocks of tea were decreasing. The Calcutta strike ended after 12 weeks on May 5, but a subsequent strike in Colombo, which lasted four weeks and ended on June 20 meant that for a whole month no shipments of tea from Ceylon were possible.

"The Ministry, rightly assisted by the trade, have done everything humanly possible to maintain our supplies, but these two consecutive interruptions in shipments have now reduced our stocks to a point at which we must take action to safeguard orderly distribution.

SUPPLIES INTERRUPTED

"As the House knows, we distribute the tea ration at the rate of two ounces and three-quarters per week in alternate months.

"I regret to say that the above two interruptions in our supplies will mean that we cannot make the usual increase for the next three-quarter month, namely, July 20 to August 16. The ration will therefore remain at the rate of two-and-a-half ounces a week over the next two months."

"I cannot yet definitely say whether we can ship, sort, blend and distribute sufficient tea to make the increase to three-quarters in the next due month, namely, September. But it should be definitely possible—if there are no further strikes or interruption of shipments—to rebuild our stocks to a level which will permit us to make the usual increase to the three ounce rate in the next due month after that, namely November."

"I am glad to say that it will not be necessary to make this temporary reduction in the case of people of 70 and over and seamen."

Answering Mr Anthony Eden, deputy leader of the Opposition, who asked when Mr Strachey was in a position to make this decision, the Food Minister replied that it was made only a few days ago.

Shipments were resumed after the strike, he added.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

State Lotteries

BISHOP Wilson of Singapore, better known here as Dean Wilson of Hongkong, has expressed his attitude to lotteries. His opinion will not be disdained, but rather appreciated, in view of the fact that Government lotteries for Hongkong are possible. Bishop Wilson has expressed the case so fully that his followers, either here or in Singapore, should be grateful to him. In general, the Bishop says the lotteries are more harmful than good; that the same financial results can be obtained by an appeal to the sentiment, generosity and goodwill of the people; that lotteries if given legal backing help to bring the law into contempt; that these pandering to Fortune are demoralising; and that there is a difference between a man gambling with his friends and a whole nation doing the same thing for stupendous prizes.

His argument raises two important points. Taking the second one first, it is difficult to reconcile a moral theory that grants immunity to an individual to gamble with his friends and yet condemns the same individual who gambles through a State lottery. Gambling is either acceptable or unacceptable; right or wrong. Bishop Wilson says he has prejudices both ways, which, morally speaking, is just sitting on the fence. Not even the Bishop could show that a man

degrades himself less by gambling with his friends (which he believes is justified) than the man who buys tickets in the Irish sweepstakes (which he condemns). The real point is, he doesn't degrade himself, either way unless he is silly enough to stake more than he can afford. More important though is Bishop Wilson's view that as much money can be obtained for necessary social welfare through public subscriptions as by lotteries. This depends on the size and importance of the project. There will always be certain sections of a community who will subscribe liberally to good works, but in the democracies it has been proved that social institutions dependent upon voluntary donations are forced to remain small and insufficient for general needs. In Hongkong all our voluntarily-supported institutions have always worked on a financial shoestring, and expansion has, accordingly, been retarded. If lotteries can free these benevolent operations from financial worries and permit them to operate 100 per cent, then lotteries are justified. In any event, supporters of this type of gambling will rest their case on precisely the terms expressed by Bishop Wilson: "that people may as well have fun and benefit the 'back' as benefit bookmakers." Being true, the point is incontestable.

CUT OFF FROM WORLD

"Control" of the Nathanya area means that its citizens will be completely cut off from the rest of the world by an encirclement of barbed wire and an estimated 5,000 bayonets of troops carrying full war gear.

It means old and young, rich and poor alike, will be placed in virtual concentration camp until the missing Britons are safely returned.

Nathanya's populace, from Mayor Ben Aml to the lowest street cleaner, bitterly resent what they call "unjust collective punishment."

The Mayor, who hoped to develop Nathanya into a world diamond cutting centre, took the declaration as a personal attack upon his integrity.

In a press conference in his office situated in Nathanya's most modern two-story building, the Mayor emphasised the whole-hearted support his people gave to the search before the British threatened retribution.—United Press.

PALMER APPEAL RULING TOMORROW

Owing to the indisposition of the magistrate, Mr Blair-Kerr, judgment in the appeal of Alfred Brian Palmer against his conviction and sentence on two charges of fraudulent conversion, has been postponed until tomorrow.

The close of play scores in first class cricket matches were:

At Northampton: Northamptonshire 200, Somerset 226 for seven.

At the Oval, Kent 258 (Rawson 71), Surrey 280 and 94 for two.

At Nottingham: Nottinghamshire 330, Yorkshire 201, Lancashire 104 for four (Watson 67, Yardley not out 74.)

At Westcliff, Essex, Essex 330 and 40 for three, Gloucestershire 330

(Allen 102, Emmett 57, Vigar five for 68).

At Leicester: Leicestershire 300 and 160 for two (Berry not out 72), Middlesex 337 for four (Robertson 75, Edrich 257, Compton 151, Thompson not out 89).

At Hove: Warwickshire 216 and 209 (Taylor 81, Sussex 156 (Parke 63, Connings five for 49)).

At Ebbw Vale: Glamorgan 314 (Watkins 111, Lewis 52, Howarth five for 78 and 23 for 0), Worcestershire 213 (Howarth 45).

At Manchester: Lancashire 201, Derbyshire 180, Innings 93, and 93 (Pollard 63; Derbyshire 176 and 90 (Cranston five for 47)).—Reuter.

S. AFRICANS BEATEN

Belfast, July 14.

Gentlemen of Ireland defeated the South African cricket tourists by six wickets in an unofficial one-day

(Continued on Page 4)

Britain's Latest Idea For Earning Dollars

London, July 14.

Britain is going to turn some of her scarce sugar, fats and cereals into the manufacture of a limited quantity of beer, biscuits and chocolates to get dollars for vital basic supplies like feeding stuffs, Mr. John Strachey, Food Minister, announced in the House of Commons today.

Mr Strachey declared that the target would be £10,000,000 worth of these special manufactured foods annually—enough to buy nearly half a million tons of additional feeding stuffs.

Meanwhile, a renewed attempt to get extra food rations for British competitors in next year's Olympic Games was defeated today when Mr. Strachey reaffirmed his recent statement that there could be no extra allowances, despite the fact that foreigners could bring their foods with them.

He pointed out that there was nothing to stop British aspirants from going into restaurants for their meals as often as they wished.—Reuter.

GREECE INVADED BY GUERRILLAS

Athens, July 14.

The government announced on Monday that "a new invasion of Greece took place this morning" and a Cabinet Minister said a 2,500 guerrilla force was advancing on the important city of Ioannina, 25 miles from the curving Albania frontier.

Earlier the government said Greek troops, reinforced by airborne combat veterans, had repelled a 1,000-man guerrilla force from the gates of besieged Konitsa, 25 miles north of Ioannina and only six miles from the frontier. This announcement said the attackers had been driven back to the border.

The Cabinet Minister said Greek troops were moving to intercept the new guerrilla force and that a battle might take place on Monday night north of Ioannina. He asserted the guerrillas had been reinforced from Albania, and that the Greek army was sending fresh troops to Ioannina.

The Minister said the situation was serious but quoted Greek military leaders as saying "all is going well for us."

Ioannina (Yanina) largest city in the Epirus, has a population of about 20,000. It is a trade and industrial centre.—Associated Press.

FRONTIER BATTLE

Athens, July 14.

A communiqué issued by the Greek Second Army late today from its headquarters at Larissa said that a battle is still going on near the Albanian frontier.

The communiqué said 20 guerrillas had been captured.

It claimed guerrillas invaded Greece in trucks from the Albanian towns of Erseka and Morova in an area south of Leshkovitsa. The guerrillas blew up a bridge at Bourazati on the Loos River before occupying the heights west of Konitsa.

Press reports in Athens said 61 guerrillas were captured so far.

Meanwhile the French Embassy issued a statement denying recent reports circulating several weeks ago that 2,000 members of an international brigade departed from France. The statement said the reports were "inaccurate."

The Greek military authorities announced that a Greek plane was fired on by Yugoslav soldiers near the Yugoslav-Greek border north of Florina. The plane was not damaged.

The Greeks report another incident. They said a Yugoslav border guard at an undisclosed point fired on a Greek guard who returned fire. There were no casualties.—United Press.

China's 461,006,275

Nanking, July 14.

The Ministry of the Interior's newly created Census Bureau today announced that the Chinese population is 461,006,275. Males are 241,405,555 and females 219,520,720.—United Press.

ALL THE SPORTS NEWS OF THE MOMENT

LEICESTERSHIRE BOWLING FLAYED BY EDRICH AND COMPTON

London, July 14.

Bill Edrich and Denis Compton, whose third-wicket partnership, have been a feature of England's test matches with South Africa, today unleashed an onslaught against Leicestershire's bowlers and added 277 runs in two hours and 10 minutes for a second-wicket partnership for Middlesex.

The close of play scores in first

class cricket matches were:

At Northampton: Northamptonshire

200, Somerset 226 for seven.

At the Oval, Kent 258 (Rawson

71), Surrey 280 and 94 for two.

At Nottingham: Nottinghamshire

330, Yorkshire 201, Lancashire 104 for four (Watson

67, Yardley not out 74.)

At Westcliff, Essex, Essex 330 and

40 for three, Gloucestershire 330

(Allen 102, Emmett 57, Vigar five

for 68).

At Leicester: Leicestershire 300

and 160 for two (Berry not out 72),

Middlesex 337 for four (Robertson

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At 2.30, 5.10,
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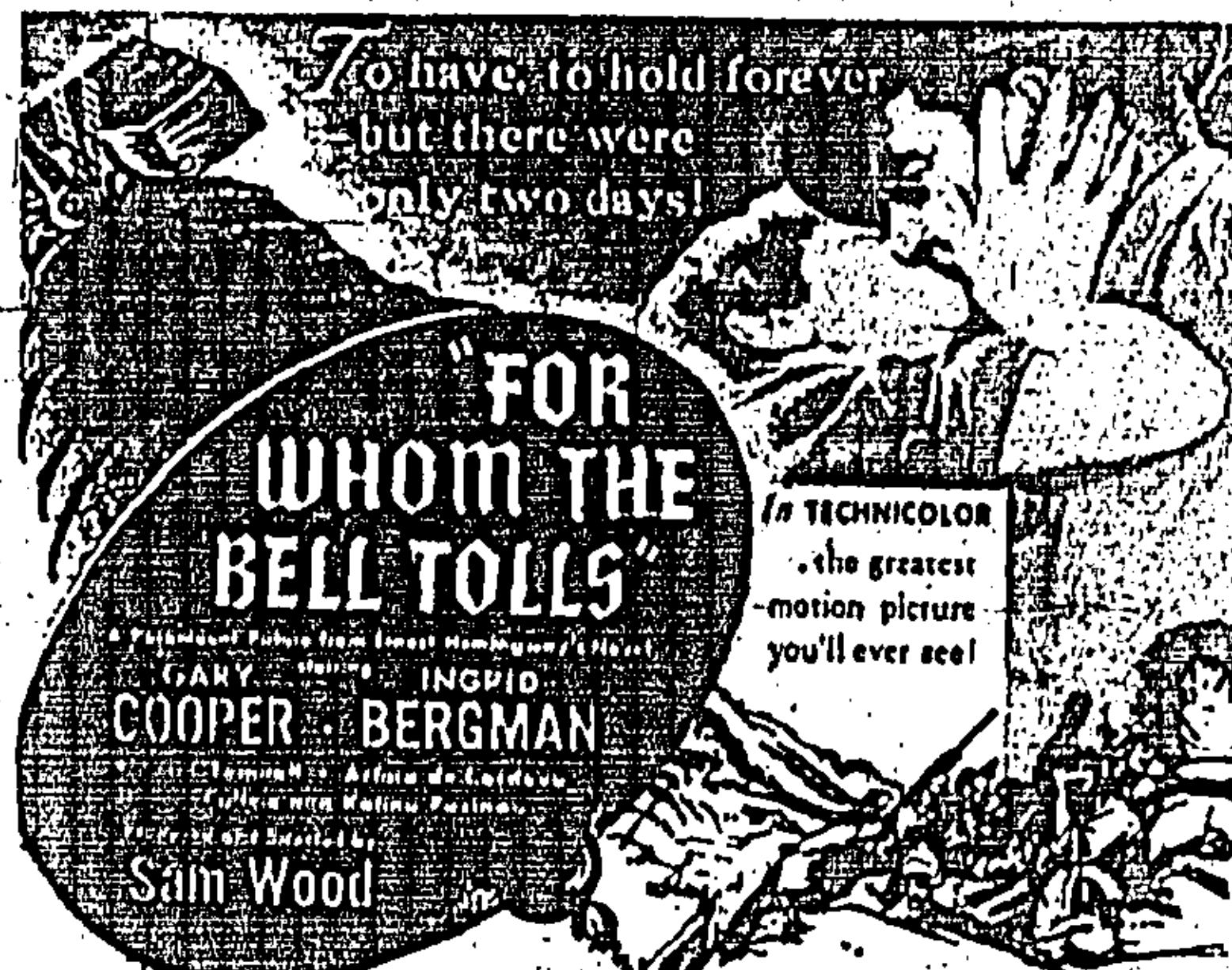
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"BEYOND 8000 MILES"

DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN

THAT HAS TAKEN SHANGHAI AND ALL PRINCIPAL CITIES IN CHINA AND SINGAPORE BY STORM.

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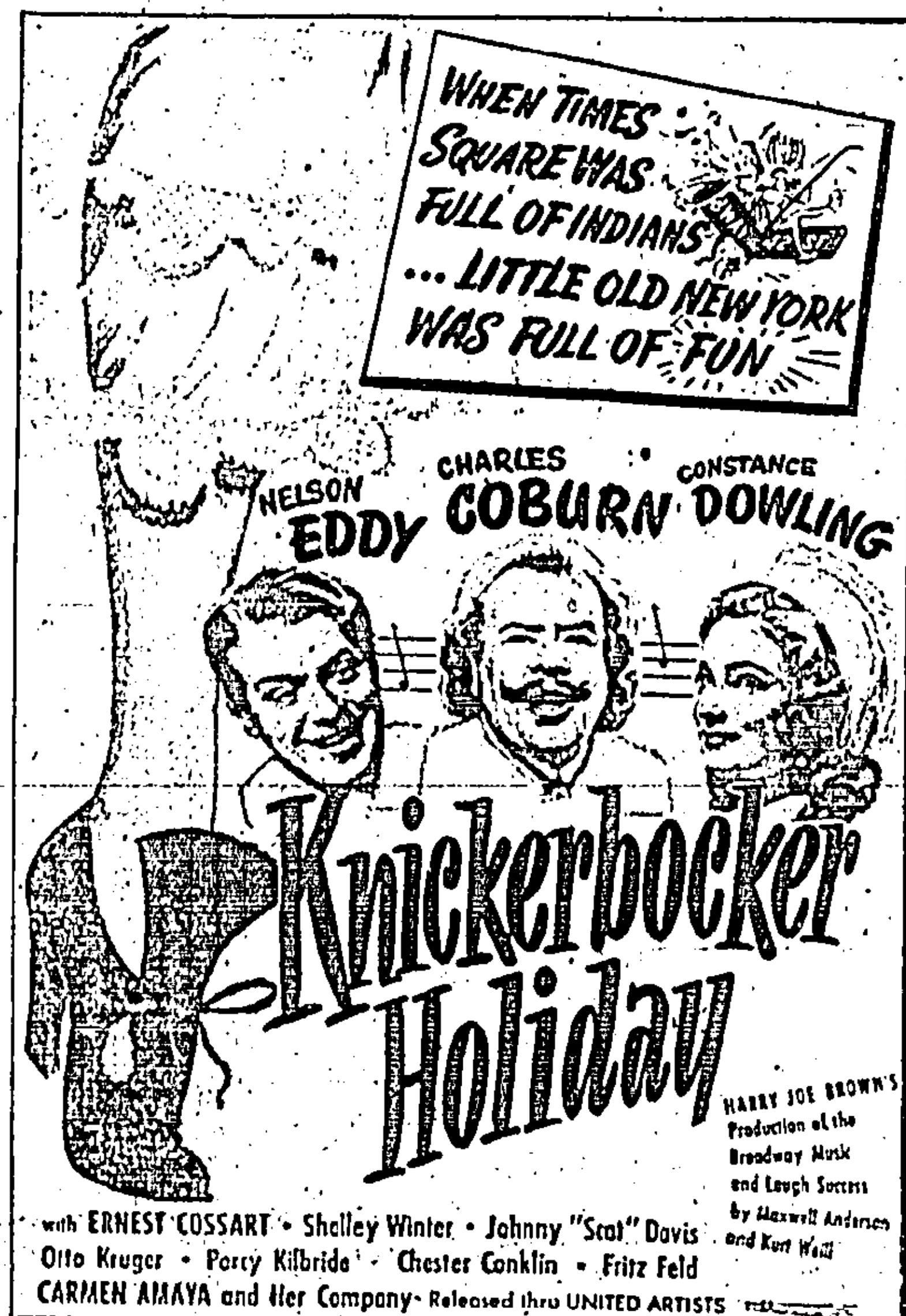
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with SUSAN HAYWARD — A PARAMOUNT PICTURE



ONE THING LEADS TO ANOTHER

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IVOR v NOEL

The score is 15 all

THREE is a momentary lull in the theatre, a welcome respite during which managements can contemplate new revivals and critics can brush up on their Hazlitt. The only play that I have seen in a week is Mr Novello's. "We Proudly Present."

Personally I enjoy the middle-aged rivalry of Mr Novello and Mr Coward with their raids upon each other's territory. Determined to show that he could out-Novello Ivor, Mr Coward wrote "Pacific 1066" (or whatever the date was) and flooded Drury-lane with sentimental nonchalance and gentle, melodious sighings in a setting of sylphides and ADCs. The public wouldn't take it, and Mr Novello was leading by 15, love.

But Mr Novello did not take kindly to this attempt to sing his beard and decided to invade his rival's domain of straight comedy. If Noel could write "Present Laughter" and satirise himself before full houses, why could not Ivor also make fun of the theatre with equal profit and glory?

£12,000 + ideals

SO now "We Proudly Present" is at the Duke of York's. In the orchestra pit a pianist regales early arrivals with gems from "The Dancing Years" and "Perchance to Dream" just to remind us that in the current theatre Ivor is leading his rival by three productions to one.

The theme of two ex-officers starting up in theatre management with nothing but £12,000, a lot of ideals, and Phyllis Monckton as a secretary, offers the prospect of much malicious fun, and we are eager for the tale to unfold.

I even dared to hope that we should at last hear what actors say about critics.

But half-way through I was reminded of the Negro way down South who, when he came out of gaol, explained to his friends that he had been convicted of fragrancy.

I AM sorry to have to charge Mr Novello with the same offence. He is gentle creature who moves in a lilac-scented garden. He is so in love with romance that he has never married, for the whole world is his sweetheart. In return he has the adoration of women of all ages and sizes.

Our ever-green Phyllis plays the part of the Greek chorus and makes a caustic running commentary straight from the goodness of her heart.

Miss Irene Handl is terrible as the German opera singer who is of course Viennese. The gents had not much to do but they were right on the job.

And the score between Ivor and Noel? Fifteen all.

He was angry

WHEN Donald Wolfit and I were playing Toronto at the same time last January he told me that his performance of Hamlet there would be his last. Subsequently, he played it in New York and has included it in his present repertory at the Savoy.

Now he has reaffirmed his decision to leave the Dane to others. This stern resolution proves that Mr Wolfit is not only an actor of great gifts, but that he does possess the quality of self-criticism.

Mr Wolfit was angry with me when I suggested that his supporting company was not good enough for New York, and one must admire his tenacious loyalty to those who serve under his banner.

It is true that in this new play he does his best to draw one character, a famous but fading actress, as anything but a nice person. In fact, he actually makes Miss Monckton refer to her in that awful unprintable word which designates the female of the dog species. But she is really not a female dog at all. She wasn't even a female bull—for why should English fastidiousness only embrace the canine?

There was one of the nicest audiences I have ever seen at the theatre, an audience with such good manners that, although smoking is permitted, they waited until the interval before they attacked their 3s. 4d. packages.

There was much clean laughter at the nice clean jokes, and at the end of the play the audience signified in the usual manner that they had enjoyed themselves and would have liked more.

MISS ENA BURRILL, as the semi-permanent actress, gives a fine performance, being one of those rare actresses who can move and speak at the same time.

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I hope that Mr Wolfit will realise that these words are set down in admiration and even in affection, for he is a brave, gusty, virile fellow whose energetic masculinity is like a gate that overwhelms the pads illus which only offer themselves for our delight.

Mr Wolfit was angry with me when I suggested that his supporting company was not good enough for New York, and one must admire his tenacious loyalty to those who serve under his banner.

The Canadian audiences had acclaimed him as the greatest Shakespearean actor since Irving, and in their enthusiasm they saw little fault in the minor parts. Miss Ida was specially and rightly acclaimed as a rose with petals of fine intelligence.

The New York critics had a night out at Mr Wolfit's expense, and even mocked his Lear, which was stupid of them. They were particularly caustic about the company in general.

Nobody seems to understand that "back and forth" cannot achieve anything without "up and down."

Too many applicants are filling all four papers instead of sending back the first received after sending them in. The department cannot return what it has not got and the applicant cannot receive what is not sent.

That, in brief, is the dead-lock and bottleneck visualised in Suet's statement of May 11 to the Registration Committee, when he called for a greater integration of potential facilities.

Loyalty

IN his own defence Mr Wolfit argues that he plays in London and New York with the same actors as in Newcastle, Wimbledon or Montreal, and he asks if he should shed them when he invades Broadway or London. This does credit to his strong sense of loyalty, but he must expect that a production in the Metropolis can be judged only by Metropolitan standards.

Working under ideal conditions the Old Vic Company has brought a new approach to old masterpieces. When actors like Sir Lewis Casson, Sir Ralph Richardson and Mr Nicholas Hannen play comparatively small parts, the whole level is raised,

How to Live to 107

WASH IN BRANDY

BY ROBERT MUSEL

TODAY only: how to live to be 107 years old, by a man who did it!

Every night before going to bed wash yourself all over with good brandy. Then dress in an ordinary business suit and climb into bed.

The recipe is that of Charles Macklin, one of the greatest character actors who ever lived. The memory from which it popped today is that of W. MacQueen Pope, historian of the British stage, whose family has been connected with London's Drury Lane Theatre in an unbroken line for two centuries.

Pope is an incredible purser of obscure facts and carries in his mind more theatrical lore than any known encyclopaedia. For example, when George Bernard Shaw, then a struggling playwright, made a curtain speech at the opening of his second show "Arms and the Man" in 1894, someone boozed from the audience.

"I quite agree with you, Sir," replied Shaw, "but who are we among so many?"

THAT remark has been quoted many times.

"But," said Pope somewhat testily, "no one seems to care that the man who boozed was R. Golding Bright."

Bright?"

"Certainly," said Pope. "He sat always on the end seat of the fourth row of the stalls. He always wore white gloves to keep from biting his nails. And he always slept soundly after the first act."

Pope is indefatigable where a fact about the theatre is concerned. It wasn't enough for him to know that the greatest actor of his day, William Terris, was stabbed to death just outside the Adelphi Theatre by a disgruntled supernumerary—he HAD to know where the player got the knife.

"His name was Prince," said Pope with well-modulated triumph, "and he had the gall to buy the fatal knife with money he borrowed from the victim himself, on the plain that he was broke."

The old Adelphi, now a dance-hall, is one of Pope's favourites.

"It was built," he said, "by a colour merchant named John Scott, because his daughter wanted to be an actress and it was the only way he could get her on the stage. Her debut cost him \$40, but by cramming seats closer together than in any theatre on the island he pulled up his grosses to the point where he began to make a profit. When his daughter got tired of being a star he sold the theatre for \$100,000."

Mistakes in judgment are no monopoly of stage folk but Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree—who admittedly made few—really pulled a beauty on "Chu Chin Chow," one of the longest-running musical hits of all time.

He went to see it at his theatre, His Majesty's, walked a few minutes, rose and left muttering:

"Scented hogwash."—United Press.

BY THE WAY

by Beachcomber

THE old Suet's, now a dance-hall, is one of Pope's favourites. "It was built," he said, "by a colour merchant named John Scott, because his daughter wanted to be an actress and it was the only way he could get her on the stage. Her debut cost him \$40, but by cramming seats closer together than in any theatre on the island he pulled up his grosses to the point where he began to make a profit. When his daughter got tired of being a star he sold the theatre for \$100,000."

Freedom, whose trumpet-voice of old could waken,

The cowering serf, and bid him seek redress,

Now whistles feebly, and, by all foreseen,

Writes' pavish letters to the daily Press!

Tail-piece

A N American actress told a writer a charming story of her last holiday abroad, in the Breton village of Etreiz. "My ladies," she said, "anyhow, evidently knew what country she was in, even if Brittany seemed to have shifted a bit."

NANCY Jump Music



By Ernie Bushmill

When You Feel Tired and Restless

Ask For
ELLIOTT'S TONIC

On Sale at All Dispensaries



Womex
This Space Every Day
BEAUTY ARTS
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Jane Greer for Lois Leeds.

If you change your hair, change your makeup.

STAR SHINE!

Loretta Young wears an evening gown so shimmering as Starlight on Snow. It is of Silver and Blue lame, with a low decolletage and softly draped fullness at the front of the skirt. The fullness narrows into a modified hobble skirt, slit almost to the knee. In the front, Loretta's wrap is an ermine car. Her jewelry is of Sapphires, set in platinum. Ah, Hollywood!

Silk Penny Singleton on the ski-run above Tahoe in Beige gabardine ski pants and regulation boots, a Chocolate-Brown shirt and a Bloge Jerkin. Her mittens and close-fitting helmet were hand-knitted in a Brown cable stitch.

Redhead! Jeanette MacDonald received callers while wearing Black velvet slacks and shirt, slimly elegant. A scarf of Gray chiffon, with Silver thread embroidery, knotted into an ascot at the throat. Jeanette's Red-Gold hair is a dramatic contrast to the muted tones of her at-home costume.

Brownette Young, Jane Greer thinks that Golden-Brown tresses are more becoming than her Black hair, so she has had her hair changed! Hope she doesn't change her mind!

Western Reno Browne, blonde and beautiful young actress, spent a drowsy vacation shopping at Rancho Mirage for property in the magic touched sun-and-sand village, which

Minute Makeups
by GABRIELLE



six-inch wide satin ribbon is tied in a big bow. Streamers a yard long. Fastened at the back of the head, they are worn at parties. Yelling is tied once around a big chignon and allowed to hang down to the waist line. Pretty yes, yes!

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"I thought my bald head was conspicuous, but I've had this toupee three days and nobody has even mentioned it!"

BIG PANAMA CANAL PLAN

The United States Congress is expected shortly to be asked to authorise a multi-million dollar programme for the "modernisation" of the Panama Canal—key point in Western Hemisphere strategy.

American Army and Navy officials are, however, understood to be sharply divided over what form this "modernisation" should take to meet the demands of an atomic era.

BRITAIN'S CLOCK MAKERS OUT TO LEAD

One of Britain's youngest and most flourishing industries is clock manufacturing. Makers estimate that in another two to three years' time Britain shall be producing enough clocks for all home requirements, as well as a large number for export.

Once Britain was the greatest clock and watch manufacturing nation in the world. But old craftsmen did not like the use of machinery and the industry declined until, before the war, 5,000,000 clocks a year were imported, about four-fifths of which came from Germany.

Immediately after the end of the war the industry was restarted on a grand scale. A factory at Carlisle in Scotland was switched from the manufacture of instruments to the production of alarm clocks. These are now being produced at the rate of 1,000,000 a year.

A factory at Ystradgynlais, Wales, recently opened by Mr Hugh Dalton, will be producing 5,000 watches a week before the end of the year. This will be gradually worked up to 40,000 a week.

Most of the clocks produced are of the synchronous electric type, because manufacturers believe them to be the clocks of the future.

It is estimated that there is a shortage of between 12 and 15 million clocks in the country.

At present America is producing nearly 10,000,000 clocks a year; it is believed that Britain will become the largest clock and watch manufacturing country again.

BETTER THAN ADOPTION

An amateur radio hook-up spanning 6,000 miles from Audubon, Iowa, to tiny Palmyra Island in the Pacific probably saved the life of an American soldier on the lonely weather outpost.

An unidentified soldier was the radio operator of an Army plane which crashed on Palmyra while en route from Guadalcanal to Hawaii. One arm and leg were torn off, and his head was injured in the crash.

There was no physician on the island. The soldier's plight seemed hopeless. But one of the government weather observers on Palmyra, Steve Barnes, remembered his amateur radio. He opened the circuit and started calling his friend Joseph Bonsted of Audubon.

Fortunately, Bonsted, a shipyard worker, was home and answered. Barnes told him of the accident. Bonsted called Dr Ralph Davis, chief surgeon at Audubon Hospital, and asked if he would help.

With the telephone and radio circuits open, Davis delivered instructions to the men on Palmyra Island on how to care for the soldier.

The men on the island said the only anaesthetic they had was novocaine but Dr Davis cautioned them not to use it because of the soldier's condition. He said: "Just pull the scab back as well as you can. Then apply clean dressings."

The men on Palmyra carried out his instructions and later reported that the soldier seemed improving. They also advised that a physician was flying from Hawaii to take over. —United Press.

ATC ENTRY AGE LOWERED

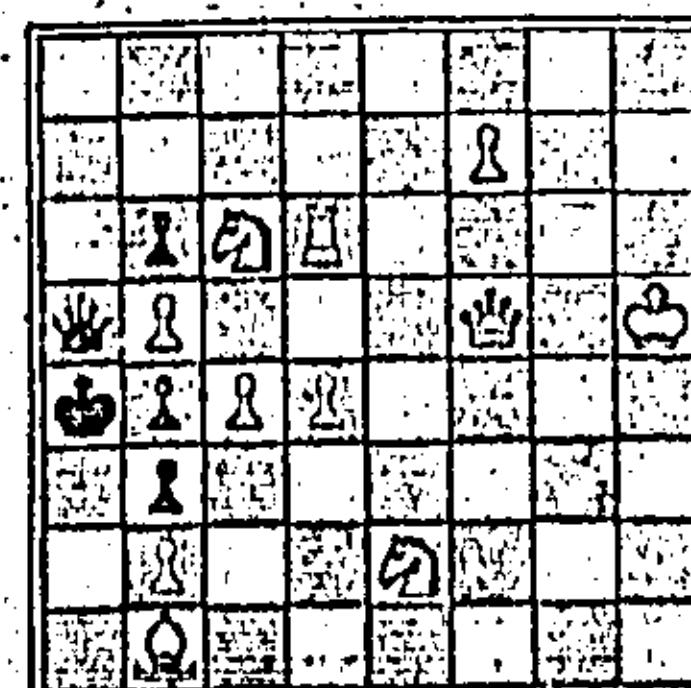
The Air Ministry has just given approval for the minimum age of entry into the Air Training Corps to be lowered by three months to 16 years. This means that a boy can now join the Corps direct from school, now that the school leaving age has been raised to 15.

Prospective cadets will still have to serve a probationary period of three months, so in future a lad will be 15½ years of age before he puts on A.T.C. uniform and is enrolled in the Corps.

The maximum age for acceptance as a probationer—17 years nine months—remains unchanged.

CHESS PROBLEM

By T. and J. WARTON
(BCF Tournament '47)
Black, 5 pieces.



White, 11 pieces.
White to play and mate in three.
Solution to yesterday's problem:
1. B—R6, and; 2. Kt (ch, disch, or dbl ch) mates.

The Army is said by informed sources to favour the construction of a completely new sea-level canal which would need no locks and would thus be much easier to defend against possible enemy bombardment.

The military Governor of the Canal Zone, Brig. J. C. McHaffey, and six consulting engineers have made a report to the War Department recommending such a plan.

But they estimate that it would cost at least U.S.\$2,700,000,000 and take up to 20 years to build.

The Navy on the other hand is reported to favour merely bringing the present canal up to date with the construction of a third set of locks, and of a "terminal lake" somewhere along the length of the canal where ships could drop anchor while waiting for fog to clear.

More concerned with the operational problems of ships using the canal which links their two major fleets and arguing that canals are indefensible anyway to direct atomic attack, they are opposed to the sea level idea as being "impractical."

Tests Models

Both departments are actively exploring the situation, and consulting with each other in an attempt to reach a compromise on the matter.

The Wall Street Journal reported that Brig. McHaffey and his staff have had intensive conferences with the Atomic Energy Commission; the Navy has built laboratory test models of two different ideas on construction; and a special Congressional sub-committee, making on-the-spot investigations at Panama, is preparing the background for eventual legislation on the subject.

Informed quarters in Washington believe that the Navy plan, if only for economic reasons, will win.

Congress took its first step towards dealing with the inadequacy of the Panama Canal back in 1939, when it authorised \$277,000,000 for construction of a third set of locks. This project had to be abandoned in 1942, at least for the time being, because of wartime shortages of labour and material.

Since the project got no further than excavation, it gave the U.S. nothing more than \$77,000,000 hole in the ground.

Since then construction costs have doubled but completing this project and providing a terminal lake would still be a lot cheaper and quicker than building a whole new waterway.

Ten Years To Build

A sea-level canal across the Central American Isthmus is not a new idea. A company of French interests tackled such a project in 1879. About the same time American interests started digging a lock canal in Nicaragua.

Both efforts failed—and it was not until 1904 that the present canal, which took ten years to build, was begun.

Another factor that will swing Congress in favour of the third set of locks proposal is the fact that they are already worried about the number of accidents in the present waterway; in the ten years up to 1942 more than 1,000 accidents occurred between ships plying the narrow gulf.—Reuter.

Traders are to enter Japan by August 15 and are to finalise their first agreements with Japanese interests by September 1.—Associated Press.

Rupert and the Young Imp—18



DUMB-BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE

HENRY, I THINK WE'D BETTER LEAVE IT. SAY'S HERE THAT IN THE THIRD ACT THE HEROINE BARES ALL!



400 TRADERS FOR JAPAN TOO FEW

The Allied decision on how the 400 traders to go to Japan next month are to be divided among the nations removes another obstacle to the Japanese return to world-markets.

After weeks of deliberations representatives of the 11 Pacific Allies told their respective governments how many businessmen they may send to Japan.

Allocations finally decided on were: United States 102; China 64; United Kingdom and colonies 44; India 39; Netherlands and Netherlands East Indies 27; Australia 23; France and French Indo-China 16; Canada 8; New Zealand and Philippines 6 each; other nations 45.

The allocation decision, while arrived at by the Inter-Allied Trade Board, representing the 11 Pacific Allies has by no means been received with satisfaction by all the participating nations.

Firstly, many of the Allies as represented by these commercially minded delegates feel that the overall number of 400 should be increased.

Under such a limitation they feel no nation can obtain the trade representation in Japan. It should have and that the Japanese markets can support.

Secondly, the 400 allocations have been divided inequitably among the claimant nations, some of these governments feel.

Australian Opinion

The United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, China, and the Philippines are known to feel they should have received a larger number of permits for their traders under the free and private trading agreement. Australia indicated it should have received a minimum of 30. It said these factors entitled it to a larger number.

Previous trade with Japan, its efforts in the military defeat of Japan, the prospects of future trade with Japan, its capacity to supply Japan with badly needed primary commodities, and its capacity to supply commodities and production facilities for which Australia developed during the war.

Others of the Allies feel these and other dissatisfactions about the primary plan for reopening private trade with Japan.

Each participating government, after having made allocations, will submit their lists to the Allied Supreme Commander in Tokyo for approval. If approved, the way then will be open for the traders to converge on Japan for a resumption of the war-interrupted trade.

It is anticipated that the trading agreement will now be implemented with speed.

Traders are to enter Japan by August 15 and are to finalise their first agreements with Japanese interests by September 1.—Associated Press.

SPECIAL TIMES

QUEEN'S

AT 2.30, 5.00,
7.15 & 9.30 P.M.

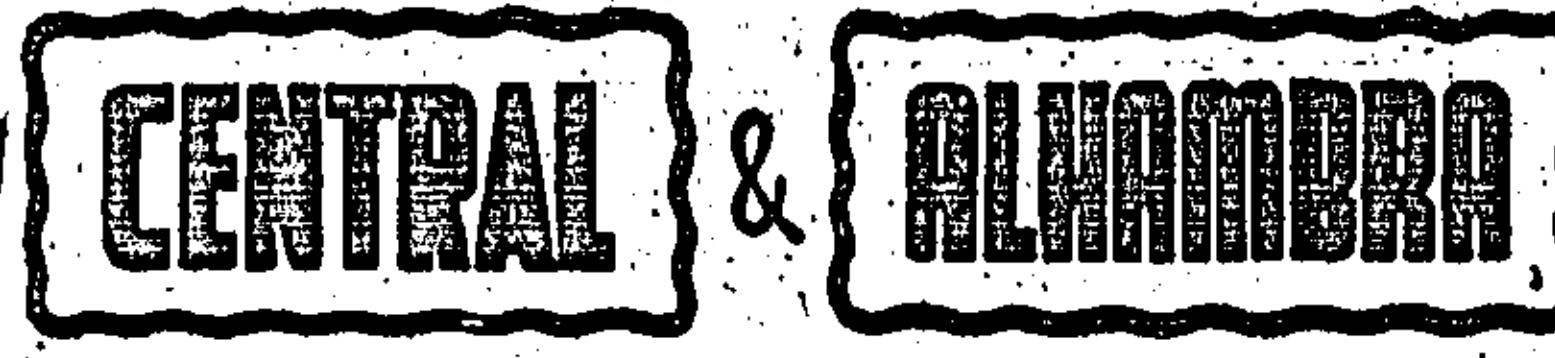


It's coming!!!
JIMMY STEWART'S NEW PICTURE
FRANK CAPRA'S
"It's a Wonderful Life"
A Liberty Film featuring DONNA REED

TO-MORROW



ADDED MARCH! "SOVIET'S NEIGHBOR OF TIME" —CZECHOSLOVAKIA"



DAILY AT 2nd, 5th, 7th & 9th P.M.

DAILY AT 2nd, 5th, 7th & 9th P.M.

TO-DAY ONLY

